



**MNO Eastside Neighborhood
January 30, 2008
Community Settlement House**

Code Enforcement:

Q – The Eastside Neighborhood needs to have more Code Enforcement Staff in the area. What can be done to make that happen?

A – We appreciate that the neighborhood is seeing positive results from Code Enforcement. Our division, like many others in the City, is working through difficult budget times. Given this situation, what we can promise is that we will continue to review all of our assets and work to bring additional resources into the Eastside as this becomes needed. Additionally, we do have a Volunteer Program that residents of the Eastside could join. This would provide the Eastside with additional opportunities for community involvement and assist us to work together with you as a team to bring about compliance. If you are interested, please call Code Enforcement at (951) 826-5633 to obtain information about becoming a “Code 51” Volunteer.

Parks, Recreation & Community Service

Q – Can the City of Riverside have a Riverside Night at an Angel’s game and possibly go by Metrolink as has been done in the past?

A – The Director of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department committed that staff would work to organize field trips to Angel Stadium during baseball season, one in particular for seniors using the Metrolink service. Eastside staff will organize the event and advertise at Eastside neighborhood parks.

Q – Can the Parks Department add restrooms at Lincoln Park?

A – The City has standards in place for the construction of restroom buildings in parks. By design, neighborhood parks, like Lincoln Park, are intended to serve those homes within walking distance of the park and do not typically have assigned recreation staff to supervise them. Consequently most neighborhood parks within the system do not have restrooms.

Because of the size of Lincoln Park, it does not warrant a restroom. However, the Director of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department committed to temporarily put a portable restroom in the park to see if it would help address some of the problems that exist at that location. Whenever there are restroom buildings that are unsupervised at smaller neighborhood parks, it sometimes tends to create problems with vandalism, inappropriate activities and may attract undesirables.

Police

Q – The Gang Injunction that just passed, is it going to be counter productive? Victory Outreach is working with gang members, they have a rehab home, have rallies and dramas which are to help with the gang situation.

A – The Police Department feels the community will embrace the gang injunction in the future as long as we continue to educate as many community groups as possible on what exactly a Gang Injunction is and how we as a Police Department plan on using this tool. Victory Outreach along with the Eastside Think Tank held a Community Open Forum for February 28, 2008 to discuss issues with the Gang Injunction with members of the community.

Q – Can there be more patrols around the Eastside in particular around Lincoln Park?

A – Yes, Problem Oriented Policing team has been assigned to follow up with this matter.

Q – There is illegal activity in the alleys between 10th and 11th and 12 & 13th at Sedgwick. Can the police make visits because the kids get the bus at the alleyway and they see men urinating, gambling, and drinking at all times of the day.

A – Police Department will continue to provide extra patrols in this area as well as work with the Neighborhood Watch group that already exists in that immediate area to develop problem solving solutions.

Q – There is street car racing on my street, Ottawa Avenue. What can be done to prevent this dangerous behavior?

A – We will start by placing a motor officer in that area to monitor the speeds of motorists at the problem times of the day. The Problem Oriented Policing officers will also be assigned to review this matter.

Public Works:

Q – Can the alley between Park & Victoria near Lincoln Park be paved and have lights installed.

A – The City uses Air Quality Management District (AQMD) funds to help pay for the paving of dirt alleys. The Public Works Department will review this segment of alley, along with other dirt alleys, with the available money from this funding source for possible paving in the next fiscal year 2008/2009. In the interim, the Street Division of the Public Works Department graded and cleaned the alley.

Q – Can speed humps be installed on Prospect Avenue in particular between Hyde Street and Sedgwick? What is the procedure for getting them installed?

A – The procedure for placing speed humps involves obtaining Fire Dept and Public Works approval first for eligibility, obtaining data to verify the speeds on the street, meeting the minimum criteria, obtaining support of over 70% of all neighbors on the street and 100% approval from those within 100 feet of a proposed speed hump, getting all approvals, and obtaining the resident's share of cost (currently \$550 per hump).

There are other options which are more readily available and may solve the particular concern. A staff member from Public Works has contacted residents to discuss some other options.

Q – Can speed humps be put on Sedgwick to slow down the traffic?

A – Speed humps are for local streets only and this portion of Sedgwick is a 35 mph collector street and is therefore not eligible for speed humps. There are other options which are more readily available and may solve this particular concern. Public Works has contacted and met with residents to discuss other options, including upgrading of school signage on this street as well as on 13th, 14th and Victoria. We will issue work orders for these upgrades as requested. Thank you for meeting with us at the school to review these traffic conditions together.

Q – Can the alleys between 12 & 13th and 10th and 11th at Sedgwick be cleaned up?

A – The Street Division of the Public Works Department cleaned and graded the alleys.

Q – Can Bunche Place around to Vasquez Street be repaved? There are many bumps in the road and erosion in some areas.

A – Bunche Place, Langston Place and Vasquez Place are part of the Minor Street Rehabilitation Project. Construction is scheduled to begin in May, 2008 and will take approximately three months to complete.

Q – The traffic at 14th Street and Bermuda Avenue is very fast and children cross the street there to go to Community Settlement House. Can flashing yellow ground lights be installed as a crosswalk for children and families?

A – Flashing yellow in-ground lights only warn vehicles that a pedestrian has entered the street, but do nothing to assist the pedestrian in creating an appropriate gap in which to cross. The best place for pedestrians to cross to get to the Community Settlement House is at either of the two signalized intersections, one block immediately east and west of Bermuda. These locations provide the safest route and have controlled crossings for pedestrians.

Other:

Q – What can be done to keep from putting the bus station near the Metrolink?

A – The Greyhound bus depot is requesting a conditional use permit for a location on La Cadena Drive near Columbia Ave. The matter will be heard by the City Council. The site needs to be approved by the city council before it can be located on that site. You may come to the council meeting or write to the council members and give your opinion on the matter.